

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A strapping machine configured to position a strap material around an associated load when in a feed mode and to tension the strap material and seal the strap material to itself around the load when in a tensioning mode includes an improved winder assembly. The machine includes a frame, a strap material supply and a strapping head. A strap path is defined from the strap material supply to the strapping head. The strapping head includes a feed element for conveying the strap material during the feed mode in a first direction around the load and for conveying the strap material in a second, opposite direction to tension the strap material around the load. The strapping head includes a rotating winder for tensioning the material around the load. The winder has a peripheral strap path and a central strap path. The strap material moves through the central strap path when the strap material is conveyed in the first and second directions and wraps around the peripheral strap path after the strap material has moved in the second direction and when in the tensioning mode. The strapping head further includes a winder arm configured to cooperate with the winder. The winder arm is biased to rest against the winder to direct strap material to a predetermined region of the strapping machine when the strapping machine transitions from the rewind mode to the feed mode.